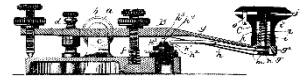




Bexar Wire

San Antonio Radio Club
W5SC



2017, No. 6

June 2017



Richard Elder, WB5ACN, presenting his program on the BITX40 QRP SSB Transceiver Board at the SARC meeting on May 11, 2017



Harold Fleischer, AE5AS, President, SARC, presenting Richard Elder, WB5ACN, a Program Certificate of Achievement for his excellent presentation

Field Day Plans

Our next club meeting will be at 7:00 p. m. (1900) on Thursday, June 8, 2017, at Grady's Barbeque, 327 E. Nakoma Dr., San Antonio, TX 78216. There will not be a program as the focus of the meeting will be on final Field Day Plans.

(See Page 10 for Field Day information available as of press time.)

BITX40 QRP SSB Transceiver

At the 7:00 p. m. meeting on Thursday, May 11, 2017 at Grady's Barbeque, 327 E. Nakoma Dr., San Antonio, TX 78216, the program was on the BITX40 QRP SSB Transceiver. Richard Elder, WB5ACN, was the presenter for this program.

Richard Elder, WB5ACN, started his presentation by explaining that the BITX40 QRP SSB Transceiver is a board invented in India to let people in India get into amateur radio. It does have a website in English and is sold worldwide for \$59 plus shipping, which is like \$10 for delivery by DHL.

The BITX40 is a circuit board with all the electronics with connection points for all the off-board functionality that needs to be connected to it like a power supply, on/off switches, etc. In addition to the circuit board, they also send an Arduino board that they call a Raduino, microphone, antenna connector, etc. What you do is mount the BITX40, power supply, speaker, etc. in a project box and the next thing you know is that you have a functioning radio for less than \$100.

It is not unusual for Ham radios to be offered as kits at a low cost. What is unusual is that this kit is for SSB or voice while a lot of kits are CW. This makes the 40M band more accessible to Hams who want to get on the air without learning CW. It is low power in that it transmits 7W, which is why it is called QRP. For a person to get on HF with a new commercial HF offering usually requires the purchase of an all HF bands, multimode (Continued on Page 6)

SAN ANTONIO RADIO CLUB

PRESIDENT'S RADIOGRAM

NUMBER	PRECEDENCE	HX	STATION OF ORIGIN	CHECK	PLACE OF ORIGIN	TIME FILED	DATE
6	R		AE5AS		San Antonio, TX		June

TO
W5SC

Last month, the President's Radiogram: Field Day 2017, Field Day 2017, and more Field Day 2017.

This month it is yet more Field Day 2017. A lot on Field Day 2017 preparatory work has been done. Richard Elder, WB5ACN, has been a constant source of information. Rich Roudebush, N4DCA, has been out working with me on inventories. He and I did a site visit where we picked out locations for antennas and measured the length of the coax cables that we need. Paul Guido, N5IUT, is the computer guru and has stepped up to guide us through tent erection and beam antenna erection. Lloyd Swartz, KF5ZHW, has stepped up to handle water such that we will be able to keep hydrated this year. He will get the BBQ supper and host that key event. Various members have accepted opportunities to help with moving equipment and with being station captains. SARC will soon be into execution.

SARC has several Field Day 2017 objectives. Chief among them are have fun, eat well, and operate radios. You need not participate in every minute of Field Day 2017. You can participate in every minute, but you do not have to participate in every minute. Schedules can be tough when it comes to freeing up a whole weekend. It is okay to come out for just a short period of time, to pop in and out several times, etc. Some people show up for set up and tear down just to learn how to do some of those things. Others, have conflicts that only let them come Saturday afternoon or evening.

Can you bring your own equipment? Yes. Bring radios, power supplies, antennas, coax cable, etc. in any combination. We will work in whatever you bring somehow. Yes, we have a plan for radios and antennas, but we can work you and your equipment in. Part of Field Day is sharing.



Do Field Day 2017!

Harold AE5AS

Bexar Wire

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San Antonio Radio Club

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The due date for articles is the Friday before the first Monday of the month.

Harold Fleischer, AE5AS, President, called the meeting to order at 7:06 p. m. at Grady's BAR-B-Q, 327 E. Nakoma Dr., San Antonio, TX 78216. There were 18 members and 5 guests in attendance.

Harold Fleischer, AE5AS, then introduced himself as Harold AE5AS and then in accordance with SARC custom asked everyone else to introduce themselves.

Harold Fleischer, AE5AS, then turned the meeting over at 7:10 p. m. to Mike Harrison, KB5KST, Vice President, who introduced the program. The program was presented by Richard Elder, WB5ACN, about BITX40 QRP SSB Transceiver Board. Mike Harrison, KB5KST, thanked Richard Elder, WB5ACN, and turned the meeting at 7:55 p. m. back over to Harold Fleischer, AE5AS, who immediately presented Richard Elder, WB5ACN, with a Program Certificate of Appreciation.

Harold Fleischer, AE5AS, then reviewed the printed agenda for meeting with the members present and asked if there were any modifications. There being no modifications suggested, Harold Fleischer AE5AS announced the printed agenda as orders for the meeting without objection by unanimous consent.

Harold Fleischer, AE5AS, then stated that whereas the minutes for the last meeting on April 13, 2017 had been distributed in the May 2017 Bexar Wire newsletter that unless there were corrections or objections that we would dispense with the reading of the minutes and approve them as written without objection by unanimous consent.

Officer Reports:

President

Need a Newsletter Editor

Need a Webmaster and I talked with someone about it after the last meeting and hope to have a follow-up discussion tonight.

Vice President – Future Program: The June 8, 2017 meeting will not have a program. The time will be used for final coordination for Field Day 2017 on June 23-25, 2017.

Secretary – Bob Thompson, K5RWT, has his 77th birthday today and has no report.

Treasurer – Financial Report was distributed by the President for the Treasurer who was not present because of a conflict.

Newsletter Editor - The May 2017 *Bexar Wire* newsletter was sent out by Bill Crabtree, K5FRQ, on May 8, 2017.

The deadline for input, as stated on the bottom of page 2, remains the last Friday of the month.

Webmaster – The planned two monthly updates for News Blast! and the Bexar Wire were made.

Chairman of the Board Report –Bob Rodriguez, K5AUW, announced that the Board did not meet last month so there is no report, but that a short meeting would be held after this meeting to address getting a video projector.

Committee Reports

Education and Training – Bob Rodriguez, K5AUW, reported that the next class will be a Technician class on Saturday, May 27, 2017, and Saturday, June 3, 2017 at Christus Santa Rosa on Fredericksburg Road in the Med Center. The class will run from 9 a. m. to 5 p. m. each day. The VEs will conduct the Technician Exam starting at 3 pm on June 3, 2017. The class is free, but you do need to pay the \$15 VE fee. Gordon West, W5YI, has a Technicians book that is recommended for the class that costs around \$22.

Emergency Communications –JC Smith, N5RXS, reminded members that there was to be a Homeland Security Conference this month, but there is a \$200 fee.

Ruth Lewis, KE5MHJ, County ARES Emergency Coordinator, will be holding a meeting on June 17, 2017 at the Red Cross.

Harold Fleischer, AE5AS, reminded everyone that a Severe Weather SKYWARN conference will be held on April 22, 2017 at the University of Incarnate Word based on the minutes of the last meeting.

Executive – No meetings since last month.

Field Day - Joe Bruno, W5AUQ, will be unable to participate in Field Day 2017 because of a broken leg that will keep him sidelined all summer. He is still available for advice.

The acting Chairperson of the Field Day Committee will be the Chairperson.

We have filed an application to use the City Hall Park of the City of Shavano Park. Their supporting proclamation will be issued at their 6:30 p. m. meeting on Monday, May 15, 2017. Anyone who wants to join with the President for this is welcome to do so.

The assemblage of committee members has already commenced.

- Rich Roudebush, N4DCA, has accepted responsibility for the generators and electrical system. He is planning a generator party before Field Day to ensure the generators are working.
- Paul Guido, N5IUT, has agreed to be the Tent, Computer, and Beam Antenna master. We had enough hands to put the tent and beam antenna up, but we really need someone who knows what they are doing. Richard Elder, WB5ACN, was that person for the Tent and Beam Antenna last year, but he cannot be at Field Day. Paul, N5IUT, updated the logging computers before Field Day last year and had an assistant take care of it during Field Day since he was in Russia. He will update the logging computers again this year. Anyone who wants to help with the logging computers should contact Paul, N5IUT.
- Bob Rodriguez, K5AUW, will be the HF Station Captain for 20M Digital Communications.
- Tom O'Brien, AB5XZ, has agreed to the HF Station Captain.
- Lloyd Swartz, KF5ZHW, has agreed to the VHF/UHF Station Captain.
- Mike Harrison, KB5KST, has agreed to tow our trailer. He will be participating in pre-Field Day 2017 trailer light testing.
- Brad Crabtree, W5RFQ, has agreed to be our back-up to tow our trailer.
- We need 2 more HF Station Captains and a GOTA mentor.
- Most of all we need a Food Coordinator as Rowena and Lew Archer have a family reunion that weekend.
- Preparatory work has been going on:
 - Two major lessons learned last year were:
 - Patch Panel for safety and flexibility. It has been built by the Field Day Committee.
 - Better way to move tent poles. Through experimentation two pole bundles held together with bungee cords will work.
 - The Trailer has been inspected.
 - The broken driver tail light and loose license plate are being fixed.
 - Testing with Mike Harrison has been set up for Wednesday, May 17, 2017.
 - Air source for tires have been identified.
 - Tent pieces have all been located. Going forward it will be two tubs and two pole bundles.
 - Antennas have been sorted and labelled.
 - Push poles have been measured and labeled expect for green bag.
 - Tower and Beam Antenna parts have all been identified and labelled. Two retaining eye bolts to hold tower in place on trailer have been bought.
 - When it comes to electrical power
 - The location of generators and distribution cables is known.
 - Richard Elder, WB5ACN, is working on the computer power distribution panel.
 - All 4 extension cords have been found, labelled, and tested.
 - All 5 fire extinguishers have been found and checked for green. The 2 safety signs for the fuel points have been located.

- A generator test party is planned to occur before Field Day.
- Other key things to do:
 - Test all RF cables for continuity and repair as necessary.
 - Finalize antenna plan. Tentatively, we plan to have 9 SARC antennas:
 - Beam antenna on tower with rotor for 10M-15M-20M
 - 40M and 75M on dipole antennas on same mast
 - 20M dipole
 - 15M dipole
 - 6M dipole – might be 10M instead
 - R5 Vertical for 10M-15M-20M
 - R7 Vertical for 10M-15M-30M-40M
 - VHF/UHF vertical – Richard Elder, WA5ACN, is looking to repair one.
 - Solicit more personal antennas
 - Arrange for water and food.
 - Establish equipment plan for each radio station. Right now:
 - GOTA – SARC VHF and UHF radios
 - VHF/UHF Station – Lloyd Swartz, KF5ZHW
 - HF 1 – 20M digital – Bob Rodriguez, K5AUW
 - HF 2 – HF – Tom O'Brien, AB5XZ
 - HF 3 – SARC HF Radio
 - HF 4 - TBD
 - Solicit more personal radios – we can switch out or share spaces
- Next month:
 - We will have a work plan and sign up for it – it will be similar, but not identical to last years.
 - We will have a station sign-up sheet
 - You can sign up for multiple different stations
 - You need not be present the whole time
 - You do not need to bring any equipment although a personal headset is recommended
 - We will have a detailed antenna and patch panel plan for all SARC and known personal antennas
 - You can bring an antenna at the last minute.
 - You will be assigned a location that is vacant on the plan
 - Bring plenty of coax as we need some dispersion to prevent interference between antennas.
 - You need not be present the whole time
 - You do not need to bring any equipment although a personal headset is recommended

Finance and Review – Inactive until next January.

JOTA – Bob Rodriguez, K5AUW, asked for someone else to volunteer to be the Chairperson of the JOTA Committee. He is more than willing to be Assistant Chairperson and help guide his successor through the Boy Scout coordination process.

Membership – Tom O'Brien, AB5XZ, reported that so far we have 112 members for 2017 with 87 paid and 25 free.

Nothing more has been done on the identification of new hams per the FCC data base.

Nominating (Inactive-no appointments)

Radio Fiesta – No report.

VEC – Pat Knight, AD5BR, asked for more members to become VEs as it looks like there will be four test sessions in June 2017 including the Saturday morning of Field Day.

Centennial Commemoration (Temporary) - Tom O'Brien, AB5XZ, has noted the controversy engendered by the proposed Alamo Plaza plan and is backing away from it for now.

CW Training (Temporary) – Joe Bruno, W5AUQ, no report.

Tailgate Swap Meet Committee (Temporary) – Richard Elder, WB5ACN, has set up a tailgate swap meet for May 27, 2017 from 7-10 a. m. at Hangar 18 Surplus. This is a one-time change from the

Old Business - None

New Business - None

Announcements For The Good of Amateur Radio

Cray Lester, K5MUG, announced that he had some good equipment at the bad of the room for sale.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:47 p. m.

Lloyd Swartz, KF5ZHW
For
Bob Thompson, K5RWT
Secretary

BITX40 QRP SSB Transceiver

(Continued from Page 1)



Richard Elder, WB4ACN, making a point about a version of the BITX40 QRP SSB Transceiver during his presentation on May 11, 2017

transceiver. These are usually excellent radios, but the low-end ones cost in the range of \$600-\$1000. The BITX40 QRP SSB Transceiver gets you on 40M HF for one sixth to one tenth the cost.

Richard, WB5ACN, also explained that there are user groups out there and that there are multiple different directions that you can take the BITX40 QRP SSB Transceiver to include powering up to around 20 watts.

Generally, the officer and committee chairperson reports were routine, but there were four reports worth highlighting. First, Mike Harrison, KB5KST, reported that his impassioned solicitation for members to step



Richard Elder, WB4ACN, using a slide during his BITX40 QRP SSB Transceiver presentation on May 11, 2017

forward and volunteer to present a program at a future meeting was successful. Second Bob Rodriguez, K5AUW, announced a Technician Class starting on May 27, 2017.

Third, Bob Rodriguez, K5AUW, announced that he needed to step down as JOTA Committee Chairperson and asked someone to step forward. Bob, K5AUW, will participate as the Assistant Chairperson and as a participant, but needed to step down as chair. [Editor's Note: Mike Harrison, KB5KST, volunteered to be the Chairperson after the meeting.] Fourth and Last, was the Field Day Committee report. The minutes have the details for that report and separate articles on Field Day with even more current information appear elsewhere in this issue of the **Bexar Wire**.



Left side room wide view of members at the SARC meeting on May 11, 2017 shortly before the official start

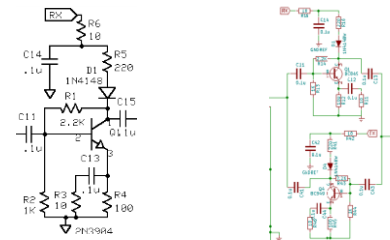


Right side room wide view of members at the SARC meeting on May 11, 2017 shortly before the official start

The BITX40 Radio Project



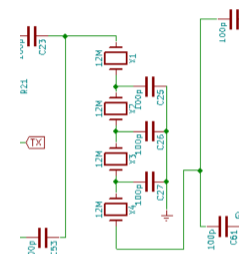
BI-DIRECTIONAL AMPLIFIER STAGE



BITX40-BITX20 THE EARLY DAYS
THE GENESIS OF THIS TRANSCEIVER
CAME FROM THE MIND OF FARHAN
WHILE ON A LONG FLIGHT.
WHAT COULD BE MADE IN A COST EFFECTIVE
MANNER TO PROVIDE THE HAM OF INDIA
WITH A TRANSCEIVER THAT MIGHT HAVE A
FINAL COST OF \$7-\$15?

THE DESIGN TOOK INSPIRATION FROM AN ARRL BOOK
AND BECAME A UNIT USING BI-DIRECTIONAL AMPLIFIER
STAGES

SIMPLE COHN LADDER FILTER AT 12 MHZ





THE WORLD IS IN THE HOME BREW FINAL ON
BITX40/20/80/60



WHERE TO NOW? WWW.HFSIGS.COM
[HTTPS://GROUPS.IO/G/BITX20/](https://groups.io/g/bitx20/) USERS GROUP
[HTTP://BITXHACKS.BLOGSPOT.COM/](http://bitxhacks.blogspot.com/) BITX40 HACKS



YOU CAN DO IT, GET ON 40
METERS 7195 KHZ WITH SSB
FOR \$69+

These slides are all in a Microsoft PowerPoint 2016 file that can be emailed to anyone who is interested by simply emailing the editor at the email address shown on Page 2.

Ray Taylor, N5NAV



While doing the yearly computer update (see article on Page 14), Paul Guido, N5IUT, ran into Ray Taylor, N5NAV. Paul, N5IUT, was updating computers in the upstairs loft at Linda Bruno's antique and book store. He took a break, went downstairs, and ran into Ray Taylor, N5NAV. Ray, N5NAV, was the South Texas Section Manager for ARRL for about 20 years. Ray, N5NAV, and his son were in the store shopping. Ray, N5NAV, was invited to join SARC for any part of Field Day 2017 that he wanted.

Field Day 2017



Field Day 2017 is only two and a half weeks away. Active preparations have been underway for a while. *A key point to remember is: **You do not have to commit to all the hours of Field Day in order to participate.*** SARC recognizes that its members may have a lot of other commitments. Hence, even just an hour or so of time on site is completely acceptable.

The City of Shavano Park presented Mike Harrison, KB5KST, on behalf of the San Antonio Radio Club a supporting proclamation on Monday, May 15, 2017, at the City of Shavano Park's meeting of the Mayor and Council. Mike, KB5KST, presented the Mayor a formal SARC President's Certificate of Appreciation for their support. This is our 15th year together.

With Joe Bruno, W5AUQ, sidelined with a broken leg (not incidentally, but Joe, W5AUQ, is now at home while continuing to concentrate on his recovery), Harold Fleischer, AE5AS, has stepped in as acting Chairperson. He has gotten a lot of support. Various members are taking the lead on different matters. Rich Roudebush, N4DCA, is taking on the generators and electrical power distribution. SARC has two 5KW generators to power radios and lights. SARC has two nominally 1KD generators to power computers. Paul Guido, N5IUT, is handling computers, the tent, and the beam antenna. It will take a lot of hands to put up the tent. Paul, N5IUT, knows how it goes together. Similarly, the beam antenna is a multi-person undertaking, but Paul, N5IUT, is taking the lead on it. Lloyd Swartz, KF5ZHW, is doing the water and food. The water is essential to stay hydrated. The food is essential for SARC to maintain its reputation as an eating club with a radio problem. Harold, AE5AS, is taking the lead on antennas although all members present are expected to take a hand in it. Brad Crabtree, W5FRQ, is committed to moving the tent and tables. Mike Harrison, KB5KST, is committed to moving the trailer, generators, tower, etc. Station Captains have been identified to do the radio setups and host the start of radio operations: HF1 – Paul Guido, N5IUT, with SARC HF radio, HF2 – Lloyd Swartz, KF5ZHW, with his HF radio, HF3 – Fob Rodriguez, K5AUW, with his digital HF radio, HF4 – Tom O'Brien, AB5XZ, with his HF radio, VHF/UHF – Lloyd Swartz, KF5ZHW, with his VHF/UHF radios. SARC still needs a GOTA mentor, but SARC's VHF/UHF radios will be used at least initially at the GOTA station. Most of the antennas are SARC ones. However, JC Smith, N5RXS, will be bringing his 32' antenna mast with tripod for 40M/80M, Lloyd Swartz, KF5ZHW, will bring a VHF/UHF antenna and a multi-band dipole, and Bob Rodriguez, K5AUW, will be bringing a 20M dipole and a Satellite antenna. *(We have more room for antennas and can make room for more radios – so bring them if you have them.)* Field Day 2017's pieces are coming together because members are joining together to get it done.

An in-depth presentation on Field Day 2017 will be made at the meeting at 7:00 p. m., Thursday, June 8, 2017, at Grady's BBQ at Nakoma and US281. The overall site layout will be presented. This will include a breakout for the radio tent. The relative locations of the radio tent, generators, antennas, and other key equipment will be shown. Rich Roudebush, N4DCA, who was a round the clock person last year and lent his experience, and Harold Fleischer, AE5AS, did a field site visit. They located all antenna locations and took pictures of each. They measured coax cable distances and assigned masts to all antennas. A detailed plan is being developed from this information such that equipment can be tagged for how it will be used. For instance, 15M dipole antenna will go here and use coax cable XYZ to connect to the Patch Panel. See the box titled *Antenna Plan Summary* to get a list of planned antennas and supporting

Antenna Plan Summary

40M Dipole	SARC
32' Mast with Tripod	JC N5RXS
80M Dipole	SARC
Share 32' Mast with Tripod	JC N5RXS
10M/14M/20M Beam Antenna	SARC
Tower Mast on Trailer with Rotator	SARC
10M Dipole	SARC
6 x 4' Green Pole Sections	SARC
15M Dipole	SARC
6 x 4' Green Pole Sections	SARC
20M Dipole	SARC
7 x 4' Green Pole Sections	SARC
10M/15M/20M/40M R7 Vertical	SARC
SARC Push Pole 1	SARC
10M-15M/20M R5 Vertical	SARC
SARC Push Pole 2	SARC
VHF/UHF MFJ-1522 Vertical	SARC
Swivel Base 4'	SARC
7' Metal Pole #2	SARC
10' Metal Pole #3	SARC
20M Dipole [digital] with mast	Bob K5AUW
Satellite with mast	Bob K5AUW
VHF/UHF Beam with pole	Lloyd KF5ZHW
Multi-band dipole	Lloyd KF5ZHW
SARC Push Pole 3	SARC
10' Metal Pole #1	SARC
10' Metal Pole #4	SARC

masts. It is planned to tag with masking tape all coax cables and all masts/poles as to what antenna that coax cable or mast/pole is designated to support.

The presentation will include an overview of the work plans. There are basically three work plans: Friday afternoon and evening, Saturday morning, and Sunday. The underlying principle for the work plans is do not move something until it is needed. In past years, SARC took everything out of storage whether it was going to be needed or not and took it Friday afternoon to Shavano Park. The tent and tables went up along with maybe an antenna (last year no antennas were put up). Everything else had to go home with someone except for the trailer. The trailer stripped down to itself and the tower was chained to a lamppost. Members then brought everything back the next day. This method worked, but there was a lot of double if not triple handling. In addition, equipment floated back at various times in the morning. This year, only the items needed will be moved

Friday afternoon: tent, tables, 40M & 8M dipole antennas. Everything else stays in storage. Saturday morning the trailer will be loaded with the tower, antenna poles, antennas, coax cable, etc. and then moved to Shavano Park. (A designated member will move the SARC computers. A second designated member will move the computers.) As part of the preparatory work, items have been measured to facilitate a detailed loading plan for the trailer in lieu of a pile it on method. Another item incorporated in the work plans is the identification of dependencies. The most important work item on Saturday morning is computer generator power. Radio and light power does not matter until the computers and antennas are up. The work plans recognize the dependencies and will be reviewed with all members at the meeting. A summary of the work plans is in the box titled *Summary of Work Plans*.

Summary of Work Plans

- Friday evening
 - Move tent, tables, and 40M & 80M dipole antennas
 - Erect tent
 - Erect 40M & 80M dipole
 - Mark other antenna locations
- Saturday morning
 - Computer then radio generators
 - Computers
 - Antennas
 - Water and Food
 - Last:
 - Radios
- Sunday
 - First:
 - Secure Radios
 - Next:
 - Computers
 - Then:
 - Antennas
 - Generators
 - Last:
 - Tent
 - Load
 - Return to storage

The Schedule

- 3:00 p. m., Friday, June 23, 2017: Meet at 10660 W FM 78 Schertz, TX, to pull selected equipment out of storage
- 4:30 p. m., Friday, June 23, 2017: Meet at City Hall, 900 Saddletree Ct., Shavano Park to set up radio operations tent and 40M/80M antennas
- 8:00 a. m., Saturday, June 24, 2017: Meet at 10660 W FM 78 Schertz, TX, to pull trailer, generators, and tower equipment out of storage
- 9:30 a. m., Saturday, June 24, 2017: Set up antennas, emergency generators, computers, and radios at City Hall, 900 Saddletree Ct., Shavano Park
- 1:00 p. m., Saturday, June 24, 2017: Start Radio Operations
- 6:00 p. m., Saturday, June 24, 2017: Grady's BBQ Supper
- 8:00 a. m., Sunday, June 25, 2017: Breakfast Tacos
- Late Morning, Sunday, June 25, 2017: Start Tear Down of equipment no longer being used
- 12:00 p. m., Sunday, June 25, 2017: Leave Shavano Park for 10660 W FM 78 Schertz, TX
- About 1:00 p.m., Sunday, June 25, 2017: Arrive at storage site.
- About 2:00 p.m., Sunday, June 25, 2017: All equipment secure.

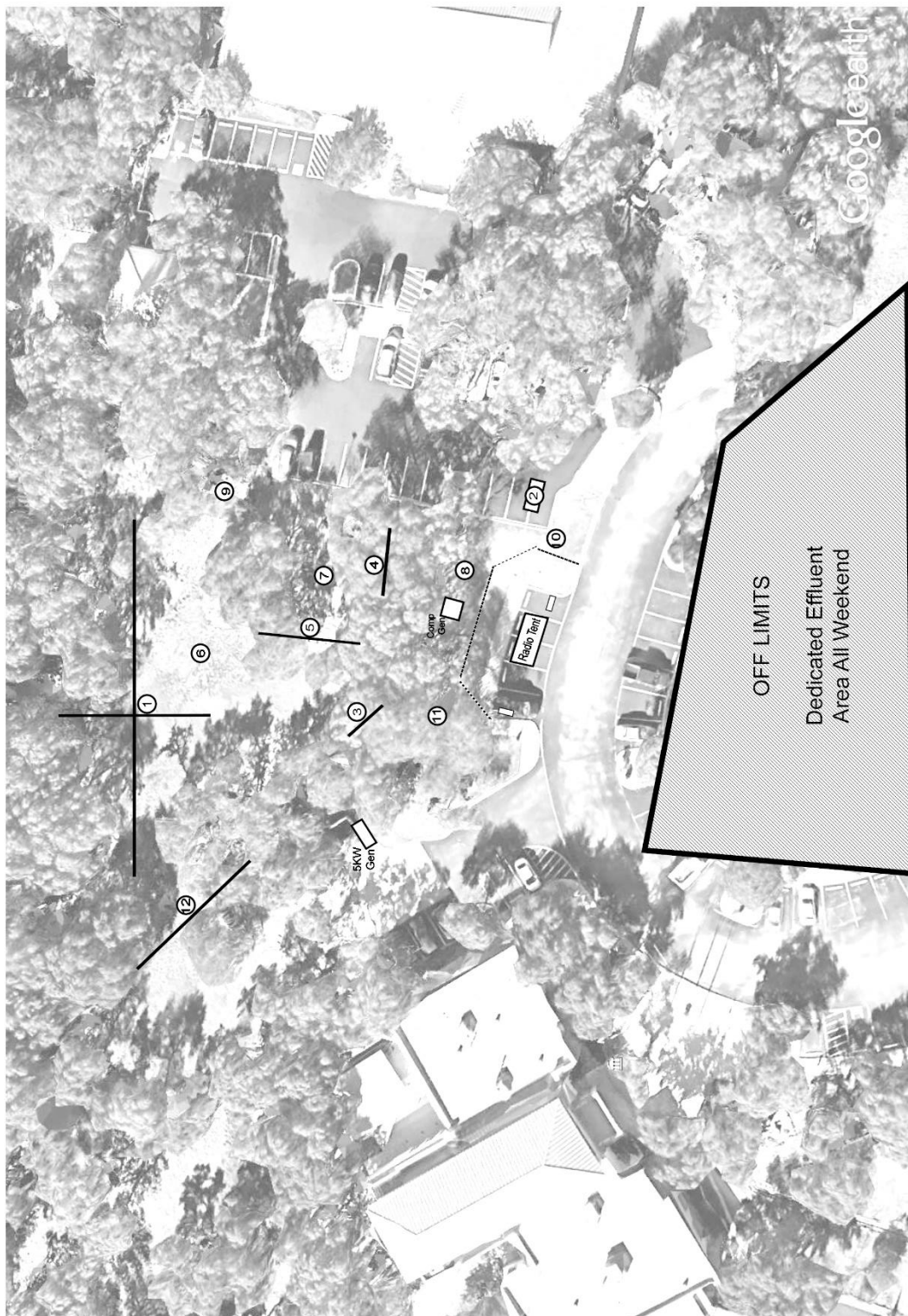
There is a master schedule and it is in the box titled *Schedule*. Again, you may participate in any part. The 3:00 p. m. load out will be done by 4 people and should not take long. The key person is Brad Crabtree, W5FRQ. Rich Roudebush, N4DCA, lives close by. Paul Guido, N5IUT, will be moving the computers. Harold Fleischer, AE5AS, will be moving the radios. Other members may go to the storage site, but these four can load the tent, tables, 40M & 80M dipoles, designated coax cables, radios, and computers pretty quickly. The key time for most members on Friday is 4:30 p. m. The more hands present the faster the tent goes up. The more hands present, the faster JC Smith, N5RXS, will be able to put up his 32' mast with the 40M and 80M dipole antennas and feed cables.

On Saturday, the key person is Mike Harrison, KB5KST, who will be dragging the trailer. It is expected that 3 people will be there for sure. Others who can be there will speed the loading per load plan along. Four generators, gas cans, fire extinguishers, antennas, antenna masks, ropes and stakes, power cables, coax cables, patch panel, lights, chairs, and kitchen supplies need to be loaded and strapped down. Arrival at Shavano Park is projected for 9:30 a. m. Early arriving people can help unload computers and put them in place, finish the 40M and 80M dipole tie down, placement of tables, and erection of personal antennas in designated locations. The four tracks for the work plan – power, computers, antennas, and food – with their dependencies start when the trailer arrives. By noon, SARC should be ready to put out radios, power supplies, and antenna tuners. The ARRL event starts at 1:00 p. m. local.

The Sunday work plan starts when the air goes dead. Last year, that was about 9:30 a. m. Radios should be immediately secured. The power for light and radio generators can go down early, but power for computers must be maintained until the computer data has been extracted and the computers gracefully shut down. The tent stays up until all computer equipment has been plastic wrapped and re-

moved. All antennas can be brought down in near simultaneously. The beam antenna must be taken down before anything goes on the trailer. After that items can be put on the trailer per the loading plan. In general, whatever vehicle brought something to Shavano Park from the storage site takes the same items back to the storage site.

The site plan with all antenna locations is shown on the next page.



- | SARC 2017 Field Day Site Layout Plan | |
|--|---|
| 1 - 40M & 80M SARC Dipole on JC Smith, N5RXS, Mast | 8 - VHF/UHF SARC MFJ-1522 on Swivel & Poles 2 & 3 |
| 2 - 10M/15M/20M Beam Antenna on Trailer Tower | 9 - 20M Dipole on Mast - Bob Rodriguez, K5AUW |
| 3 - 10M SARC Dipole on 6 x 4' Sections | 10 - Satellite on Mast - Bob Rodriguez, K5AUW |
| 4 - 15M SARC Dipole on 6 x 4' Sections | 11 - VHF/UHF Beam on Poles - Lloyd Swartz, KF5ZHW |
| 5 - 20M SARC Dipole on 7 x 4' Sections | 12 - Multi-band Dipole - Lloyd Swartz, KF5ZHW on SARC Poles |
| 6 - 10M/15M/20M/40M SARC R7 on Push Pole 1 | |
| 7 - 10M/15M/20M SARC R5 on Push Pole 2 | |

Computer Upgrade for Field Day 2017



Paul Guido, N5IUT, busy upgrading SARC's computers for Field Day 2017

Paul Guido, N5IUT, is SARC's acknowledged computer guru. Even though he was not at Field Day 2016, he worked hard ahead of time to make sure SARC was ready for it. This year, Paul, N5IUT, will be at Field Day 2017. He reported missing it last year so he is making sure to be there this year.

Experience has shown that computer logging of contacts *as they happen* is the only way to go. Trying to use paper logs or computer logging them after the fact is a proven unworkable approach. SARC enters Field Day as a 4A, which means 4 each HF transceivers operating off temporary antennas and emergency power.

Paul, N5IUT, has guided SARC in building itself a small 4 computer wired LAN where one computer acts as a logging server such that all contacts wind up in one file. These 4 computers and their monitors are refurbished equipment bought for modest amounts of money. The keyboards and mice are wired to avoid battery problems associated with wireless and stay low cost. SARC does try to keep them up to date when it comes to operating system, but we are currently spread across two versions now, three on Windows 10 and one on Windows 7. The N3FJP logging software, which SARC licenses, is updated yearly so that is another thing that gets done in the yearly update. During Field Day, SARC does not currently connect to the internet, but SARC does during the upgrade work session as the internet is the source of the updates.

This year, the yearly update was done by Paul, N5IUT, and Harold Fleischer, AE5AS, in the loft area of Linda Bruno's business on Saturday, June 3, 2017. It is next to the warehouse where SARC stores its Field Day equipment. It was a short walk to set it up. It was an air conditioned area right next to the internet router. A new to SARC Windows 10 CPU was integrated into the network while the Windows XP CPU was retired. The once a year Windows operating system update was done (over 125 for the Windows 7 CPU) along with the N3FJP yearly update.

SARC appreciates the gracious support that Linda Bruno gives to them.

Successful Technician Class Course

Bob Rodrigues, K5AUW, Chairperson, Education Committee, conducted a Technician Class on two consecutive Saturdays, May 27 and June 3, 2017, at the Christus Santa Rosa Medical Center at 2827 Babcock Road in the Medical Center of San Antonio.

He had 16 students take the Technician Examination. He reported that 13 passed the examination and many of them are joining SARC. He appreciated the support given by the Pat Knight, AD5BR, Chairperson, Volunteer Examiner Committee, and all the Volunteer Examiners that she had at the class.

Next License Test on Saturday, June 24, 2017



Pat Knight, AD5BR, Chairperson, Volunteer Examination Committee, and several members of that committee will be conducting amateur radio license exams on Saturday, June 24, 2017. The test session will start at 10:00 a. m. at the Great Northwest Library. This test session is open to the public although pre-registration is encouraged. There is a \$15 FCC authorized fee.

Ham Tailgate Swap Meet Drew Antenna Parts Seller



The Ham Tailgate Swap Meet at Hangar 18 Surplus on May 27, 2017 drew an interesting tailgater. Herb, who is not a Ham, had a bunch of antenna parts for sale. He seems to have drawn a lot of interest.

Hopefully, he will be back again.

2017 HAMster LUNCH & LEARN + SWAP MEET!



Join us for Hot Dogs, Chips, Soda and VE Session with VHF/UHF Training Classes. Special Weak Signal Training by FLEX Radio.

RAFFLE: 1st place Yaesu Fusion Radio
2nd place K5VH 2 Meter SSB Omni Antenna.

RAFFLE TICKETS \$5 EACH OR 5 FOR \$20

TRAINING & LUNCH IS FREE!

**SATURDAY July 1ST
8:00 AM KICK-OFF TO 3:PM**

Event to be held at the Red Cross 3642 E. Houston St, San Antonio, TX *RSVP to:* n5xo@144200.net

For more information, including the schedule for classes, see <http://www.144200.net/news.html>

Ham Tailgate Swap Meet

Sponsored by Hangar 18 Surplus



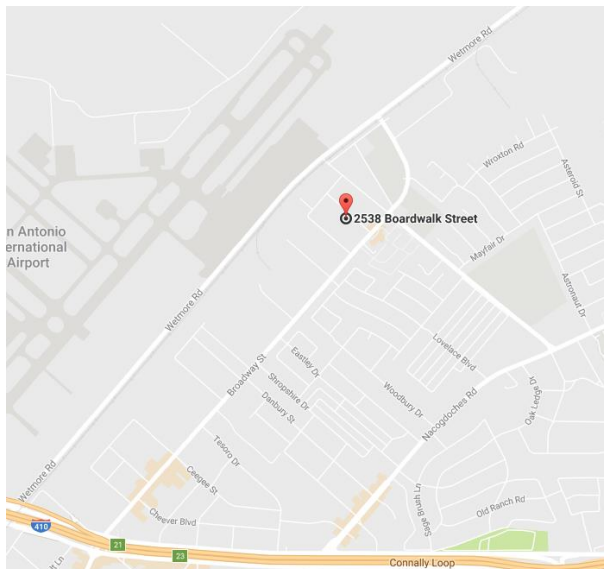
**Saturday, June 17, 2017, from 7 a. m. until 10:00 a. m.
Coffee and Donuts**



Location: Hangar 18 Surplus
2538 Boardwalk
San Antonio, TX 78217

Hangar 18 Surplus carries a wide selection of coax adapters, cables, and the \$1.00/pound electronic chassis/things to be repaired. For the Ham Tailgate Swap Meet, Hangar 18 Surplus will also have a trailer with a selection of used, empty transit cases suitable for use by Hams as GO-KITS and outdoor cabinets suitable for use by Hams for antenna tuners. The cases will be priced at \$1.00/pound.

Hangar 18 Surplus has many embroidered hats and shirts available from an additional product line in which they also do business.



Yahoo Groups

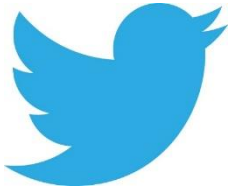


SARC has had a Yahoo Group for a number of years now. Its name is W5SC.

W5SC is being used to publicize SARC business meetings. It can be used for other things like promotion of VEC testing and classes. Members of the W5SC Yahoo Group can and have asked each other technical questions or sought assistance.

W5SC is a closed group. To become a member, go to groups.yahoo.com. (You may need to have a Yahoo account.) This will take you to a website where your groups, if any, are shown with a Search Group box at the top. Enter W5SC. This will take you to the search results page with W5SC on it. Select W5SC to go to the W5SC Yahoo Group. You will then need to select + *Join Group*. This generates a message. SARC members can expect approval to join the W5SC in probably less than 24 hours.

SARC Tweets



Reminder: there are two Twitter accounts for the San Antonio Radio Club. They are @SARadioClub and @ARadioFiesta.

The @SARadioClub is being used to publicize SARC meetings. It can be used for other things like promotion of VEC testing and classes.

As Radio Fiesta 2018 work has not yet commenced, the @ARadioFiesta is currently in standby mode for the January 13, 2018 Radio Fiesta.

SARC members are encouraged to follow both Twitter accounts.

SARC Facebook



There is a San Antonio Radio Club – SARC (@saradioclub) Facebook Page.

The newsletter editor is making posts about SARC meetings and other activities. Any Officer, Committee Chairperson, or member who believes that they have information that should be posted to this page should contact the newsletter editor using the contact information for the newsletter editor on page 2 of this newsletter.

SARC members are encourage to follow this Facebook Page.

SARC has a website:

w5sc.org

Webmaster: webmaster@w5sc.orgt

Amateur Radio License Classes

A Technician Course just completed on June 3, 2017.

As the next class's plans firm up, they will be summarized here.

SARC Meeting Dates for next 12 Months

June 8, 2017
July 13, 2017
August 10, 2017
September 14, 2017
October 12, 2017
November 9, 2017
December (None)
January 11, 2018
February 8, 2018
March 8, 2018
April 12, 2018
May 10, 2017

Meetings are held at Grady's Barbeque,
327 E. Nakoma Dr., San Antonio, TX
78216 at 7:00 p. m.

Come early and eat with other members
coming early.

License Testing Dates for 2017 and early 2018

June 24, 2017
August 26, 2017
October 28, 2017
January 13, 2018
February 24, 2018
April 28, 2018

Times and locations along with required
document information can be found on
SARC's website.

SARC does all its licensing testing as a part
of ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator
(VEC) organization so all the Volunteer Ex-
aminers in SARC are duly authorized Vol-
unteer Examiners of ARRL's VEC.

Field Day 2017

Setup: Friday, June 23, 2017
Operations: Saturday, June 24, 2017
& Sunday, June 25, 2017

*Where SARC proves they are an
eating group with a radio problem.*

More information to follow, but hold these
dates.

JOTA

Boy Scout Jamboree On The Air

This year's date is Oct 21, 2017. The plan
is to again hold it at the Texas Transporta-
tion Museum.

For more information, contact:
Gary (Mike) Harrison, KB5KST

Radio Fiesta 2018

January 13, 2018
Schertz Civic Center
See newsletter article for more information

Emergency Communications

If you are interested in emergency commu-
nications, contact:
JC Smith N5RXS